AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)   A mail server comprising:

a mailbox which stores received electronic mail by corresponding each of the electronic mail and an electronic mail address of a destination;

means for transmitting electronic mail of a new mail notification to the electronic mail address of the destination of a received electronic mail by a push method protocol; and

means for distributing the electronic mail by a pull method protocol in accordance with a distribution request from the electronic mail address of the destination of the electronic mail stored in the mailbox,

wherein the means for transmitting determines whether or not to transmit the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method protocol in accordance with a type of the received electronic mail.

Claim 2 (Original)   The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 3 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).

Claim 4 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein when the electronic mail address of the destination of the received electronic mail is an electronic mail address designated in advance, the means for transmitting transmits electronic mall of a new mail notification by the push method protocol.

Claim 5 (Original) The mail server according to claim 4, further comprising:

means for registering whether or not to carry out the new mail notification to each of a plurality of electronic mail addresses;

wherein the means for transmitting determines whether or not to carry out a new mail notification in accordance with registered contents of the means for registering.

Claim 6 (Original) The mail server according to claim 4, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 7 (Cancelled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) The mail server according to claim[[7]] 1, wherein

the means for transmitting determines not to transmit the electronic mail of the new mail

notification by the push method protocol when the received electronic mail is a reception

confirmation mail of electronic mail transmitted previously.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) The mail server according to claim [[7]] 1,

wherein the means for transmitting determines not to transmit the electronic mail of the

new mail notification by the push method protocol when the received electronic mail is

an electronic mail not attached with an attached file.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) ~~The mail server according to claim 1~~, A mail

server comprising:

a mailbox which stores received electronic mail by corresponding each of the

electronic mail and an electronic mail address of a destination;

means for transmitting electronic mail of a new mail notification to the electronic

mail address of the destination of a received electronic mail by a push method protocol;

and

means for distributing the electronic mail by a pull method protocol in accordance

with a distribution request from the electronic mail address of the destination of the

electronic mail stored in the mailbox,

wherein the means for transmitting transmits the electronic mail of the new mail

notification by the push method protocol when the type of the received electronic mail is

an electronic mail of a type designated in advance.

Claim 12 (Original) The mail server according to claim 11, wherein the means for

transmitting transmits the electronic mail of the new mail notification by the push method

protocol when the received electronic mail is an electronic mail which a file of a

prescribed type is attached as an attached file.

Claim 13 (Original) The mail server according to claim 12, wherein the file of the

prescribed type is an image file or a file in a format converted into character data from the

image file.

Claim 14 (Original) The mail server according to claim 11, wherein the push

method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 15 (Original) The mail server according to claim 1, wherein the means for transmitting notifies an amount of data of the received electronic mail by electronic mail of a new mail notification.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) An electronic mail receiving terminal device comprising:

means for receiving electronic mail of a new mail notification which notifies that an electronic mail is stored in a mailbox of a mail server by a push method protocol; ~~and~~

means for requesting the mail server to distribute the electronic mail by a pull method protocol when receiving the new mail notification; and

means for storing the received electronic mail;

wherein the means for requesting request the mail server to distribute the electronic mail by the pull method protocol when an available capacity in the means for storing is a prescribed capacity or more, and when the new mail notification is received.

Claim 17 (Original) The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to claim 16, wherein the push method protocol is a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP).

Claim 18 (Original) The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to claim 16, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).

Claim 19 (Original) The electronic mail receiving, terminal device according to claim 16, further comprising:

a printing unit which prints the received electronic mail as a hardcopy;

wherein the means for requesting request the mail server to distribute electronic mail by the pull method protocol when the printing unit can execute a printing operation, and when the new mail notification is received.

Claim 20 (Original) The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to claim 19, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).

Claims 21-22 (Cancelled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) ~~The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to claim 16,~~ An electronic mail receiving terminal device comprising:

means for receiving electronic mail of a new mail notification which notifies that an electronic mail is stored in a mailbox of a mail server by a push method protocol;

means for requesting the mail server to distribute the electronic mail by a pull method protocol when receiving the new mail notification;

means for storing the received electronic mail; and

means for comparing an amount of data notified by the received electronic mail of

the new mail notification, and an available capacity in the means for storing when the

new mail notification is received;

wherein the means for requesting requests the mail server to distribute the

electronic mail by the pull method protocol when the amount of data notified by the new

mail notification is smaller than the available capacity in the means for storing.

Claim 24 (Original) The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to

claim 23, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) ~~The electronic mail receiving terminal device~~

~~according to claim 16,~~ An electronic mail receiving terminal device comprising:

means for receiving electronic mail of a new mail notification which notifies that

an electronic mail is stored in a mailbox of a mail server by a push method protocol;

means for requesting the mail server to distribute the electronic mail by a pull

method protocol when receiving the new mail notification;

means for storing the received electronic mail; and

means for comparing an amount of data notified by the received electronic mail of

the new mail notification, and a prescribed amount when the new mail notification is

received;

wherein the means for requesting requests the mail server to distribute the

electronic mail by the pull method protocol when the amount of the data notified by the

new mail notification is smaller than the prescribed amount.

Claim 26 (Original) The electronic mail receiving terminal device according to

claim 25, wherein the pull method protocol is a Post Office Protocol (POP).